

B. AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 19 and 20 have been cancelled without prejudice

21. (Currently amended) The composition of Claim ~~20~~ 40 wherein said mesenchymal stem cell further includes exogenous genetic material that encodes interferon- γ .

22. (Currently amended) The composition of Claim ~~49~~ 40 wherein the co-stimulatory molecule is selected from the group consisting of B7-1 and B7-2.

23. (Currently amended) The composition of Claim ~~49~~ 40 wherein the exogenous antigen is selected from the group consisting of a protein, a polypeptide, a glycolipid, and a lipid.

24. (Currently amended) The composition of Claim ~~49~~ 40 wherein the mesenchymal stem cell was modified by contact with the exogenous antigen fragment or an antigen including said fragment.

25. (Currently amended) The composition of Claim ~~49~~ 40 wherein the mesenchymal stem cell contains exogenous genetic material that encodes the exogenous antigen fragment or an antigen including said fragment.

26. (Previously presented) The composition of Claim 25 wherein said exogenous genetic material is contained in an expression vector.

27. (Currently amended) The composition of Claim ~~49~~ 40 wherein the mesenchymal stem cell includes exogenous genetic material that encodes said at least one co-stimulatory molecule.

28. (Previously presented) The composition of Claim 27 wherein said exogenous genetic material encoding said at least one co-stimulatory molecule is contained in an expression vector.

Claims 29-31 have been cancelled without prejudice.

32. (Currently amended) The composition of Claim ~~34~~ 41 wherein said cell further includes exogenous genetic material that encodes interferon- γ .

33. (Currently amended) The composition of Claim ~~29~~ 41 wherein the co-stimulatory molecule is selected from the group consisting of B7-1 and B7-2.

34. (Currently amended) The composition of claim ~~29~~ 41 wherein the exogenous antigen is selected from the group consisting of a protein, a polypeptide, a glycolipid, and a lipid.

35. (Currently amended) The composition of Claim ~~29~~ 41 wherein the cell was modified by contact with the exogenous antigen fragment or an antigen including said fragment.

36. The composition of Claim ~~29~~ 41 wherein the cell contains exogenous genetic material that encodes the exogenous antigen fragment or an antigen including said fragment.

37. (Previously presented) The composition of Claim 36 wherein said exogenous genetic material is contained in an expression vector.

38. (Currently amended) The composition of Claim ~~29~~ 41 wherein the cell includes exogenous genetic material that encodes at least one co-stimulatory molecule.

39. (Previously presented) The composition of Claim 38 wherein said exogenous genetic material encoding said at least one co-stimulatory molecule is contained in an expression vector.

40. (New) A composition comprising a mesenchymal stem cell that expresses at least one co-stimulatory molecule, and said mesenchymal stem cell has been treated with Interferon- γ , and has been modified to have at least one exogenous antigen fragment bound to MHCII such that said at least one antigen is presented to initiate an immune response.

41. (New) A composition comprising a cell of the adipocyte lineage that expresses at least one co-stimulatory molecule and has been treated with Interferon- γ , and has been modified to have at least one exogenous antigen fragment bound to MHC II of said cell such that said at least one antigen is presented to initiate an immune response.